

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
(FONSI) FOR THE PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF NAVAL ACTIVITY PUERTO RICO
(FORMER NAVAL STATION ROOSEVELT ROADS), CEIBA, PUERTO RICO.

Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA, the Department of the Navy (the Navy) gives notice that an Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared, and that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required for the disposal of Naval Activity Puerto Rico (NAPR), Ceiba, Puerto Rico. The United States Department of Interior, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) was a cooperating agency in the preparation of the EA.

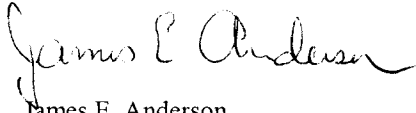
The proposed action of the EA is to comply with Public Law 108-87, charging the Navy to close Naval Station Roosevelt Roads (NSRR). Accordingly, on March 31, 2004, NSRR ceased operations as a Naval Station and was re-designated as NAPR. The property is currently in caretaker status. The proposed action evaluated in this EA is the disposal of 8,435 acres of excess federal land at NAPR. This EA addressed only the environmental impacts of disposal to non-federal interests. Properties totaling approximately 230 acres would remain in federal ownership; however, operational responsibility for these parcels would be transferred by the Navy to other federal entities. Therefore, these lands were excluded from analysis in this EA.

In accordance with CEQ regulations regarding the implementation of NEPA, the alternatives examined should include a range of reasonable alternatives, including the No-Action Alternative. Although the proposed action is the disposal of the excess 8,435-acre property at NAPR, reuse and redevelopment of the property by third-party entities would follow the disposal of NAPR as required by the Base Realignment and Closure Act of 1990 (BRAC), the Reuse Plan is included as part of the proposed action. Therefore, the Reuse Plan for the property developed by the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, which provides the most current information regarding reasonable future-use scenarios, once transfer of ownership of the property is completed, has been incorporated into the EA. Because the Reuse Plan was developed while keeping the use of existing infrastructure and facilities in mind, the proposed reuse of the land is very similar to its historic uses before NSRR ceased operations.

The EA was prepared concurrently with the performance of relevant Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) hazardous substance studies and investigations. The cleanup of contaminated sites at NAPR is primarily managed under the corrective action portion of the current Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Part B permit issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Navy has submitted an application for renewal of the Part B permit. Since base operations requiring the Part B permit are no longer in operation, only the corrective action portion of the permit remains applicable. The Navy has worked in cooperation with EPA and PREQB to convert the regulation of corrective action requirements from this permit to a RCRA §7003 Administrative Order on Consent (§7003 Order) prior to property transfer.

The analysis conducted in the EA focused on the following resources: Land Use and Aesthetics, Environmental Contamination, Soils, Water Quality, Air Quality, Noise, Terrestrial and Marine Environments, Threatened and Endangered Species, Socioeconomics, Cultural Resources, and Coastal Zone Management. Based on information gathered during preparation of the EA, the Navy concluded that implementation of the Proposed Action will have no significant adverse impacts on the environment, that an EIS is not warranted, and that a FONSI will be issued.

The EA and FONSI (in English or Spanish) prepared by the Navy addressing this action may be obtained from: Department of the Navy, BRAC Program Management Office SE, 4130 Faber Place Drive, Suite 202, North Charleston, SC 29405, Attn: Darrell Molzan, 843-743-2129, darrell.molzan@navy.mil. A limited number of copies of the EA and FONSI are available to fill single copy requests.



James E. Anderson

Director

Navy BRAC Program Management Office SE

10 April 2007
Date